

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PM-04 INR-07  
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FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2131

S E C R E T USNATO 1369

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PARM, NATO  
SUBJECT: SYG PROPOSAL FOR "PILOT" DISCUSSIONS IN COUNCIL

REF: USNATO 1296

1. AS REPORTED PARA 2 REFTTEL, SYG LUNS SUGGESTED AT THE MARCH 8 PERMREPS LUNCH INSTITUTING A SERIES OF "PILOT" DISCUSSIONS IN THE COUNCIL, WHEREBY INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES WOULD TAKE THE LEAD IN SERVING AS "PILOT" IN DISCUSSION OF VARIOUS SPECIFIC TOPICS OF INTEREST TO THE ALLIANCE. HE MADE CLEAR THAT THE PURPOSE OF HIS SUGGESTION WAS TO ELICIT INFORMATION, NOT TO COORDINATE POLICY. WE BELIEVE THAT THE SYG'S SUGGESTION WOULD HELP NAC CONSULTATION BY STIMULATING AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AMONG PERMREPS, IDENTIFYING AREAS OF CONCERN TO THEM, AND PROVIDING A GREATER SENSE OF PARTICIPATION, PARTICULARLY FOR THE SMALLER ALLIES.

2. KILLICK NOTED THAT IF THE UK MADE A PRESENTATION ON RHODESIA, FOLLOWED BY NAC DISCUSSION, THAT WOULD SEEM TO BE AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT LUNS WAS SUGGESTING. ON A PRELIMINARY BASIS, WE WOULD SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING TOPICS, IN ADDITION TO THE ONE SUGGESTED  
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BY KILLICK: COUNTRIES IN THE NORTHERN REGION MIGHT TAKE THE LEAD IN DISCUSSION OF THE SITUATION IN NATO'S NORTHERN FLANK; DISCUSSION OF THE SITUATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AFFECTING NATO COULD BE LED BY A NATO COUNTRY BORDERING THE MEDITERRANEAN, SUCH AS FRANCE OR ITALY; A DISCUSSION OF THE SITUATION IN THE BALKANS COULD BE LED BY A COUNTRY BORDERING THE BALKANS, SUCH AS ITALY, GREECE OR TURKEY; ANOTHER SUBJECT THAT COMES TO MIND IS THE SOVIET CAPABILITY TO PROJECT POWER, WHICH

PERHAPS AN OVERSEAS NATO COUNTRY, SUCH AS THE US  
OR CANADA, COULD ADDRESS.

3. TOPICS SUCH AS THESE ARE SQUARELY IN THE MAIN-  
STREAM OF THE WORK OF THE ALLIANCE, AND SHOULD NOT  
RAISE UNDUE DIFFICULTIES WITH THE ALLIES.  
WE WOULD ENVISAGE THE DISCUSSION LEADER NORMALLY  
BEING THE PERMREP OF THE "PILOT" COUNTRY.  
HE COULD, UPON OCCASION, BE ASSISTED IN THE  
DISCUSSION BY A SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE OF HIS  
DELEGATION OR EXPERTS FROM HIS CAPITAL. FOLLOWING  
THE INITIAL BRIEFING, A GENERAL DISCUSSION WOULD  
TAKE PLACE AMONG PERMREPS, AND WOULD CONCLUDE  
WITH A GENERAL SUMMING UP BY THE SYG. THE  
DISCUSSION COULD HELP IDENTIFY SPECIAL AREAS OF  
CONCERN WHICH REQUIRED FURTHER EXAMINATION BY THE  
APPROPRIATE NATO BODIES.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: IN TIME FOR THE PERMREPS  
LUNCH TUESDAY, MARCH 15: AUTHORIZATION TO LEND  
SUPPORT TO THE SYG'S SUGGESTION, AND VIEWS ON THE  
TOPICS SUGGESTED ABOVE OR OTHERS WHICH WASHINGTON  
WOULD CONSIDER APPROPRIATE.  
STRAUSZ-HUPE

SECRET

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